

# E-transit and E-mobility Programs

**Owning a zero-emissions vehicle isn't the only solution to meet the transportation needs of low-income households—nor is it always the best option.** California has launched a number of innovative programs that bring affordable, pollution-free transportation to families that don't need or want to own a car.

These programs offer equity-focused, innovative approaches to improving mobility for disadvantaged communities.

The suburbanization of poverty has meant that more and more people have been forced to move further away from job centers, medical services and even grocery stores. Many of these communities have never had adequate mobility support—much less transportation options that reduce pollution. From Los Angeles to the rural Central Valley, **innovative mobility programs utilizing electric vehicles now provide low-income residents and those with special needs with clean, safe ways to get from home to work**, shopping, doctor's offices and other destinations without having to own a car. These projects provide an alternative to vehicle ownership, and an alternative mode of transportation that is clean, reliable, and helps reduce air pollution.



Photo: Scott Hoag

These pilot programs have been wildly successful. Providing additional funding to bring these programs to scale would allow them to serve thousands more Californians. Unfortunately, each budget cycle has seen a decrease in funding for these programs, limiting their ability to expand and reach their full potential.

► **We're past the pilot stage.** These mobility programs have proven health and economic benefits for families and communities. It's time to move beyond pilot programs and provide additional funding to grow our investments, help reduce poverty and pollution, and reach thousands more Californians.

► **Clean Mobility Options regional programs**

- **BlueLA:** A revolutionary 100 percent electric car sharing service in LA.
- **Our Community Car Share:** Free, membership-based service in Sacramento.
- **Lift Line Paratransit Dial-a-Ride:** Will provide clean mobility options to disabled Santa Cruz

County residents via fully-electric, wheelchair-lift equipped shuttles.

- **Agricultural Worker Van Pool Pilot:** Transportation for agricultural workers living in disadvantaged and low-income communities; **deployed 154 new 15-passenger hybrid vans** to provide clean transportation to job sites in the Central Valley.
- **Valley Air ZEV Mobility:** Electric car sharing, vanpool, and e-bike sharing, **serving ~1,000 residents** of Merced, Bakersfield, and West Fresno County.
- **Ecosystem of Shared Mobility:** Electric car sharing project and ride-matching application serving eight affordable housing sites in Tulare and Kern Counties.
- **Carsharing and Mobility Hubs:** Electric car and e-bike sharing pilot **serving ~2,800 residents** of affordable housing in San Jose, Oakland, and Richmond. These programs offer equity-focused, innovative approaches to improving mobility for disadvantaged communities.

Our Community Car Share offers Susan Brown mobility options. Photo: Scott Hoag

- ▶ **Clean Mobility Voucher Program:** This statewide pilot awards funding on a first-come, first-served basis for small-scale car sharing and clean mobility options projects serving low-income and disadvantaged communities.
- ▶ **Rural School Bus Program:** Helps school bus fleets transition to new zero-emission school buses, or new conventionally-fueled school buses using renewable fuels. The project prioritizes small- and medium-sized air districts which have less access to funding from Department of Motor Vehicle fees and other local sources, and older, higher-mileage school buses.
- ▶ **Clean Mobility in Schools:** Funds zero-emission school buses and other school district vehicles, installation of supporting charging/fueling infrastructure, and other clean mobility options.
- ▶ **Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP):** A multi-faceted pilot supporting community capacity building and project implementation to increase mobility, reduce vehicle miles traveled, and cut carbon emissions.
- ▶ **One-Stop Shop (OSS):** Designed to streamline access to clean energy, transportation, and related consumer-based incentives, to increase awareness for low-income residents and expand outreach and education efforts on clean transportation and mobility options.



Sacramento resident [Susan Brown](#) was left without a car after a sharing agreement with a neighbor in their affordable housing complex fell through, leaving her struggling to reach doctor's appointments, or shop for healthy food. The [Our Community CarShare](#) program enables Brown and other Edgewater residents to reserve a non-polluting electric vehicle for free, using the cars to run errands and access medical care. The carshare program has been a boon for retirees like 71-year-old John Tolliver, who depended on expensive cab rides after his niece's car broke down. Tolliver uses the service for doctor's appointments, shopping, and visits to nearby cemeteries where family members are buried.

Photo: Scott Hoag



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